

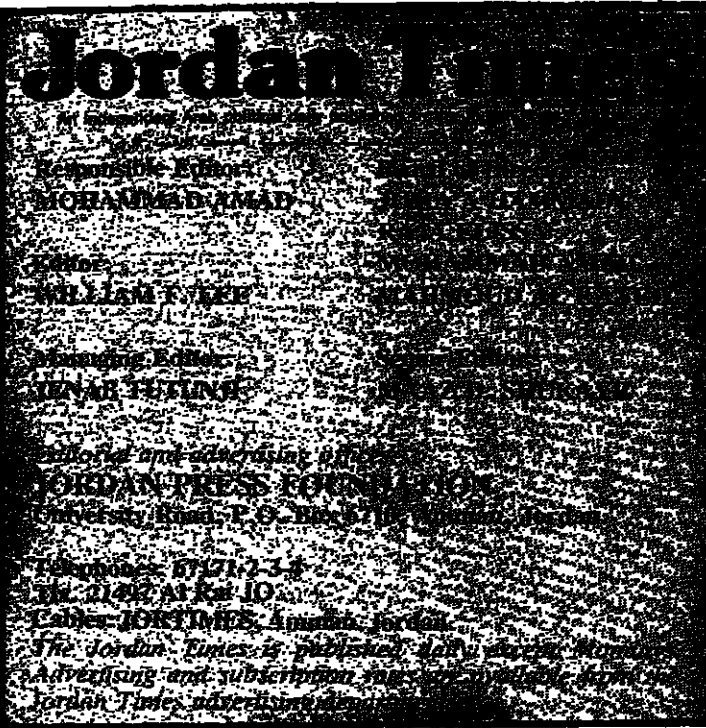
LONDON, Jan. 4 (R) — The worldwide gold fever cooled today as the price dipped by more than \$40 an ounce to be fixed at \$588 this afternoon on the London bullion market. Gold broke through \$600 barrier yesterday, only eight days after it had gone above \$500 following the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. Dealers attributed the massive switch from paper money into gold and other precious metals to fears for the U.S. dollar, the world's prime trading currency, because of continuing anxieties about Iran and Afghanistan and spiralling oil price. But the dollar, which came under heavy pressure yesterday, recovered slightly today as gold slipped. Dealers said aggressive profit-taking brought the price of gold down from last night's \$630 close to hit a bottom \$575 an ounce in Zurich before it rebounded on renewed buying interest. Reports of clashes in Iran between supporters of its two leading ayatollahs were credited for the recovery.

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

AMMAN, SATURDAY JANUARY 5, 1980 — SAFAR 17, 1400

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In the middle

THE SOVIET armed intervention in Afghanistan assuredly contains lessons for all Third World countries concerned with national sovereignty and non-alignment.

But another very important lesson to be learnt -- and it is an alarming one, and one that we saw coming -- concerns the degree to which the past year has seen a significant shift in the balance of power in the Middle East.

The Soviet intervention in Afghanistan was nothing other than a unilateral move made by the Soviet Union in response to its own perceptions of its national interests. One may quarrel with those perceptions, and recoil at the consequences of the move, but it is pointless to engage in conjecture about conspiracies.

But the fact remains that, inasmuch as the security and national interests of other countries in the Middle East region -- namely the Arab countries -- are threatened by the events in Afghanistan, this is so because these countries are still all too prone to victimisation by superpower rivalry. It is so, moreover, because these countries have found their strength and their security eroded as a direct result of the new alliance between Egypt and Israel.

This is evident enough in the hurried offers from both Egypt and Israel to provide the United States with military facilities from which to counteract Soviet "expansionism." Israel, for its part, is feverishly dreaming up other havens of instability in the region as the next candidates for Soviet pressure. President Sadat is urging the U.S. to step up its "protection" of the Gulf states.

No doubt the present crisis is grave, and does portend dangers for our region. But one must never lose sight of the real source of Middle East instability -- the unresolved Palestinian question -- and the real threat to Middle East peace -- Israeli aggression and expansionism.

We could now witness the true extent to which the Camp David "peace process" has aggravated, rather than resolved, this instability. The U.S., already pouring arms into Egypt and Israel to bolster their new alliance, must know the consequences if this new Egyptian-Israeli fortress is used as a base from which to confront the Soviet Union.

The Arab states, wedged in the middle between the rival spheres of influence of the superpowers, would be the unwilling battleground for such a confrontation. That is why they must quickly turn weakness into strength, by putting aside internal quarrels, ideological bigotry and all other sources of disunity, and put Arab interests alone first and foremost.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I: Washington's refusal to increase its aid to Israel despite the Zionist State's pressures in that direction and despite Weizman's talks in Washington to achieve this does not indicate a real change in U.S. policy towards Israel. By refraining from increasing military and economic aid to Israel beyond a certain limit, the U.S. administration is attempting to apply tactical pressure on Israel in the hope of speeding up talks on the autonomy rule in the West Bank.

Weizman's failure to gain more aid for Israel does not mean that the Zionist State will abandon further attempts to try again. The failure could mean Washington's disapproval of the way Israel is spending its money or its policy of creating settlements. But it is in fact hard to believe that the United States is now adopting a firm policy against the creation of Israeli settlements in the occupied Arab territories.

It must be remembered that the United States is Israel's partner in the Camp David accord and therefore its attitude in dealing with Israel does not fall beyond the framework of the agreement nor does it reflect a shifting of policy towards supporting the Arab cause by Washington.

AL DUSTOUR: The cold war between the superpowers in the Middle East region has become a reality following the recent events in Afghanistan. No doubt, the situation is regarded by Israel and Egypt as a golden opportunity for expanding their influence in the region under the U.S. umbrella. They have both offered to give the Americans military facilities and Washington seems to be considering the matter seriously.

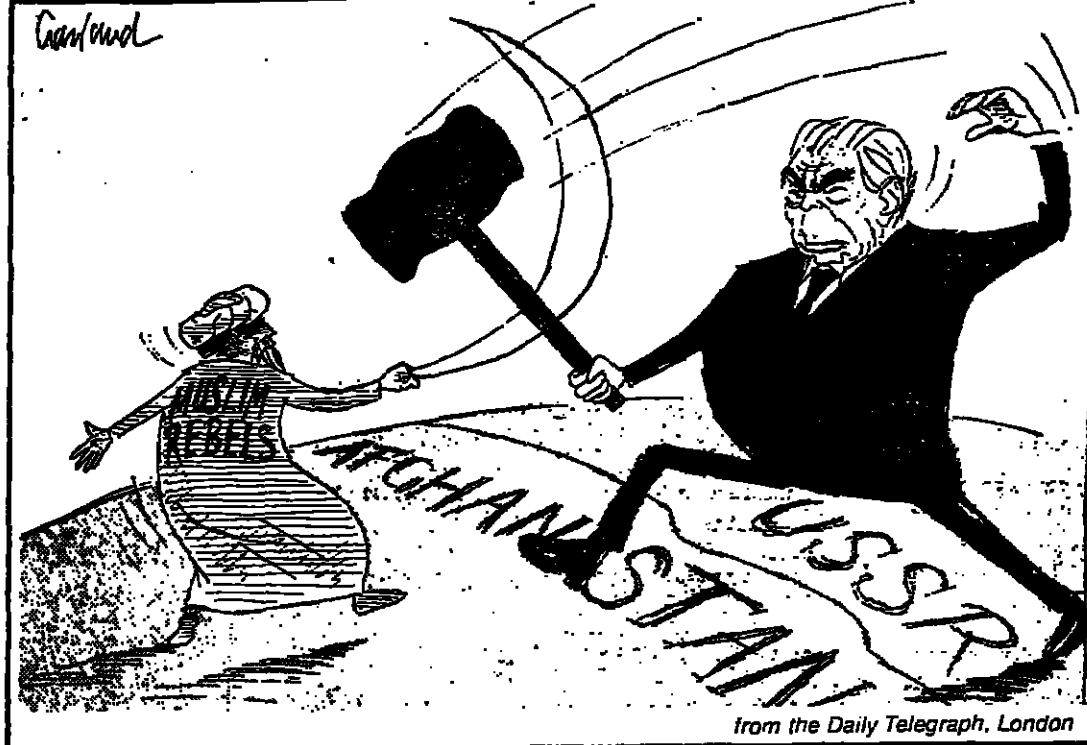
It is regrettable that the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan has weakened the Arab and Islamic worlds in the sense that it has made an American incursion in the region more excusable. In addition, the absence of a strong and united Arab military force has rendered the region impotent in the face of these serious challenges and the looming threat of U.S. intervention under the pretext of countering Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. Thus this region which floats on lakes of petroleum coveted by the big powers and which holds an important strategic position is likely to be transformed into a battle field for superpower rivalry.

We have always regarded the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty as a tool for achieving U.S. and Israeli ambitions in the Middle East. There have been reports about promoting the Egyptian-Israeli treaty into a military alliance, and about deploying Israeli troops along the Libyan-Egyptian borders so that the Egyptians can participate with the Americans in military ventures in the Straits of Hormuz. If these reports prove to be true, the region will soon be witnessing a resurgence of the Eisenhower Doctrine and the Baghdad Pact with slight changes in the titles and nations involved.

WHAT'S GOING ON

Exhibition

The Goethe Institute, in cooperation with the Dept. of Culture and Arts, presents an exhibition of contemporary German graphic art from the art centres of Stuttgart, Karlsruhe and Munich. The exhibition is on display during regular hours until Saturday, January 12.



from the Daily Telegraph, London

Banks perform well

Stock exchange trading up 182 per cent in 1979

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN, Jan. 4 -- The Amman Financial Market (AFM). Jordan's two-year-old stock exchange, registered a significant increase in activity last year, with a total volume of trading of JD 19,325 million.

This includes JD 15,845 million worth of shares traded on the floor of the exchange, and JD 3,480 million worth of trading conducted off the floor but registered with the AFM, such as transactions abroad, inheritances and inter-family deals.

The 1979 floor trading volume of JD 15,845 million is 182 per cent higher than the total of JD 5,615 million recorded the previous year.

Shares of industrial companies and banking and finance institutions dominated the market's activity last year. Banking shares accounted for JD 6,837 million, or 43 per cent of the total, while industrial shares took 42.6 per cent, or JD 6,758 million. Services sector shares accounted for JD 1,317 million (8.3 per cent), while insurance companies accounted for JD 933,825 (5.9 per cent) of shares traded.

Compared to 1978, the first year of activity, last year's performance shows the banking and finance sector taking a greater share of the market, perhaps reflecting the strongly profitable year local banks enjoyed in 1978.

Dr. Hashem Sabbagh, chairman and general manager of the AFM, told the Jordan Times in an interview here this week that he attributed the sharp increase in trading to a number of factors, including: the inflow of money into Jordan from the Gulf oil states and the West Bank, generally high levels of liquidity within Jordan, the dwindling of the land speculation rush of 1975-77, the realisation by investors that company shares are profitable and easily sold in times of need for cash, and the general level of confidence that the stock exchange had developed since opening its doors in January 1978.

Dr. Sabbagh said: "We are being successful in attracting money into Jordan from Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and other Gulf states, both from Jordanians working there and from other Arab nationals. We don't keep specific records of where every transaction originates, and in any case we can never be sure who is



Dr. Hashem Sabbagh, general manager of the Amman Financial Market, announces the figures for transactions in 1979 at an end-of-year press conference.

behind the buying of shares when brokers carry out the transaction. But the past year shows that the inflow of money from other parts of the Arab World is increasing rapidly, and this is in line with the Jordanian government's desire to encourage such a trend."

He estimated that roughly 10-15 per cent of the market's volume is accounted for by purchases of shares on behalf of Jordanians or other Arab nationals in the Gulf and Saudi Arabia. He also suspects that some Arab public institutions in the oil states are buying shares on the AFM, though this is also difficult to pinpoint.

Another new trend is the increased amount of money coming from the West Bank. Dr. Sabbagh estimates that as much as 30 per cent of trading on the stock exchange in 1979 was done on behalf of West Bank investors.

In 1980, he says, the market's total volume should increase by at least another 30 per cent, though he would not be surprised if total trading reached JD 25 million.

The bond market, however, remains slow. Dr. Sabbagh notes the rule on other stock exchanges that brisk activity in shares means low trading in bonds. Total bond trading volume last year was JD 773,207, or a daily average of JD 2,621, while the daily average for shares was JD 53,712 (compared to JD 18,972 the previous year).

But the solid performance of the Jordan Cement Factories Company's bond, issued in 1979 to raise money for building a new kiln, was heartening, in the view of Dr. Sabbagh and other AFM officials. The JD 5 million bond, the first tax-exempt private corporate bond ever issued in Jordan, was heavily oversubscribed by JD 3 million. This has led other local corporations to plan their own bond issues, which should start appearing on the market during this year, AFM officials say.

The Director of the Phosphate Mines Company, Mr. Tahseen Khreis, expects production to reach 4.5 million tonnes in 1980 after the installation of additional equipment at the Husa and Wadi Al Ahyad mines.

This year's output will be exported to Lebanon, India, Turkey, Japan, France and a number of East European countries.

Waldheim fails in Iran

(Continued from page 1)

Waldheim said today he had worked out some concrete ideas during his visit to Iran which he hoped would help find a solution to the U.S.-Iranian hostage crisis.

He told reporters it was up to the U.N. Security Council, to which he will report this weekend, to decide whether the ideas were sufficient to defer sanctions against Iran.

The council was committed to considering sanctions if by Monday the 49 hostages held by student militants at the U.S. embassy in Tehran had not been released. Dr. Waldheim said his three-day visit gave him a clearer picture of what was going on in Tehran.

He did not disclose the ideas he discussed with Foreign Minister Sadeq Oubzadeh and other members of the Iranian Revolutionary Council.

He said he had been asked to keep them secret, which he interpreted as a good sign because it showed the ideas were being taken seriously.

"I think the visit has also created a better climate between the U.N. and Iran," he said.

Dr. Waldheim said he was not scared yesterday when demonstrators rushed at his limousine in a cemetery where he had gone to lay a wreath to political victims of the deposed Shah's government. But he acknowledged the experience was "not very comfortable."

As for a reported assassination plot against him, Dr. Waldheim said he was told about it but was given no details.

In their latest statement today the students said they would invite a Vietnamese Delegation to Tehran to attend the trial of one of their captives, Mr. David M. Roeder.

The students have said they will put all their hostages on trial if the ex-Shah, now in Panama, is not extradited to face trial in Iran.

The statement said Mr. Roeder was a former U.S. Air Force pilot who had flown 148 missions, including 102 over Vietnam.

The U.N. Security Council is due to vote on imposing economic

sanctions against Iran next Monday unless the hostages are released. The council had given Dr. Waldheim one week in which to use his good offices to resolve the crisis.

In Washington, the state department said Mr. Laingen was still at the Iranian foreign ministry today despite demands by the militants to transfer him to the U.S. embassy for questioning.

The department also said it had seen news reports of demands by the militants that Mr. Roeder be tried for bombing Vietnam during the Vietnam War.

A spokesman said the United States had no word from the Iranian foreign ministry on these developments. Washington has warned Iran of grave consequences should hostages be brought to trial. He said the department had reached Mr. Laingen at the foreign ministry and there was no change in his situation. He added that he hoped Mr. Oubzadeh would make an announcement clarifying the situation.

A lean year

EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is an extract from a leading article appearing in the Dec. 21 issue of Middle East International fortnightly, published in London.

IN MARCH of (last) year... the Camp David "peace process" culminated in the signature of a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. Since then, the Israelis have withdrawn from a substantial part of the Sinai desert, but an overall peace in the Middle East is no nearer and there has been no headway whatever towards even the limited goal of "full autonomy" for the Palestinians.

The Israeli government's recent actions in the occupied West Bank have reinforced the determination of the Palestinians to have nothing whatever to do with what they regard as the fraudulent Camp David approach to the Palestinian issue. These actions have also deepened the mood of disillusionment with which even Israel's remaining friends have watched Mr. Begin's repeated concessions to extremist pressure groups in Israel. There are ayatollahs in Israel as well as in Iran, and their short-sighted bigotry is equally dangerous and even less justified.

Americans today are impatient over what they see as the reluctance of their allies to support them against the extremists in Tehran. It is time they realised that those allies, quite apart from their doubts about some of the methods the United States is using against the Iranians, are impatient about America's reluctance to take any action at all to restrain the extremists in Israel.

By invoking the support of the International Court of Justice in its conflict with Iran, the government of the United States has embarked on dangerous ground. The Court's ruling in the matter of the American hostages in Tehran is impeccable and must bring home to sophisticated Iranians the danger of allowing the extremists a free hand. (Whether it will have any effect on the extremists themselves is another matter.)

But if it were to be followed by other applications to the International Court where the subject matter would be the unwarranted and illegal actions of American agencies and individuals elsewhere in the world, it could lead to further embarrassments for the United States.

Why, for instance, should one or more of the Arab governments not raise in the International Court the question of the support given by the United States to the government of Israel while

Israel is breaking international law in the matter of the settlements in the occupied territories and by its persistence in altering the status of Jerusalem -- in both cases against unanimous rulings of the Security Council? It is no defence for the United States to say that it has condemned these actions, when the actions could not have been carried out without the active support which the United States gives to the Israeli government. Nor are these actions by the Israelis any less harmful or less far-reaching in their disregard for international law than the actions of the Iranian students in Tehran.

We can all sympathise with the Americans in their present plight, and especially with the individual hostages in Tehran. But that sympathy would be much greater, especially in the Third World but also in Europe as well, if the United States had in the past used its formidable power in ways which showed more respect for principle and less for sheer self interest. It would be greater too if the governments on whose behalf American power has been deployed in the Third World had not so often been corrupt and self-seeking, and had not so blatantly ridden roughshod over the wishes of the majority of their own subjects.

The allies of the United States have little reason to congratulate themselves or to feel smug. Too often they have merely followed in American footsteps, and if they have escaped some of the odium which has overtaken the Americans it is only because their role has been a relatively insignificant one. Lacking the power to influence events, they have not found the courage to try to restrain the Americans from actions which were unprincipled and damaging to the reputation of the whole of the western world. Nowhere has there been more obviously the case than in the Middle East.

For every nation, however powerful, there comes a time -- as it has come now for the United States -- when it needs friends. The mistake which the United States has so often made and for which it is paying the price now has been to give its friendship to individual rulers (most of them rascals) and not to the peoples over whom those rulers exercised temporary authority. If they had paid more attention to the needs and the aspirations of the peoples of the Third World, the Americans would now be finding a more ready and widespread response to their appeal for justice and legality. It is not only the Americans who will need to remember this in the 1980s.

Continued from page 1

Afghanistan

ical asylum in the United States, but expected to continue his membership of the International Law Commission and hoped to remain vice-chairman of the U.N. Palestine Rights Committee."

Calling the Soviet Union the traditional friend of Afghanistan, which was the first country to recognise the Bolsheviks, he said that, if the Russians withdrew, this friendship should be restored.

Mr. Tabibi said his wife and three children were with him in New York and he did not fear for their safety.



Babrak Karmal

Meanwhile, Afghanistan President Babrak Karmal appeared at a press conference in Kabul today to thank Moscow for sending troops to his country. Tass News Agency said.

The new leader said the Soviet Union had always acted on the international scene "in defence of the national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Afghanistan." Tass said.

It was the first reported public appearance of Mr. Karmal since he was installed in power on Dec. 27.

Earlier Mr. Dost held a brief round of talks officially described as "comradely and cordial" with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko after flying unannounced from Kabul to Moscow.

Tass said Mr. Dost was travelling to New York to explain the position of the New Afghan government, which came to power as thousands of Soviet troops flooded into the country, on Moscow's "military aid" to his country.

The agency quoted Mr. Dost as saying before he left the Afghan capital that his government was resolutely opposed to "any effort inspired by certain western circles to organise within the U.N. a discussion of the so-called Afghan question."

Britain, on behalf of some 48 other nations representing all areas of the world except Eastern Europe, has proposed a meeting of the Security Council to discuss the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

In its report from Kabul on Mr. Karmal's press conference, Tass said he described assertions by "imperialist circles" that Moscow had interfered in Afghan affairs as

"an obvious provocation and a knowing lie."

By issuing this lie, the new Afghan president said, the United States "is simply trying to cover up its own defeat" -- a remark clearly referring to Soviet charges that the U.S. had plotted to seize Afghanistan.

The assistance given to his government, which according to an official Soviet report asked Moscow for aid on Dec. 28, was in full accordance with the U.N. Charter, Mr. Karmal said.

Diplomats in Kabul and Afghan eyewitnesses quoted in New Delhi have said that the Soviet forces began arriving three or four days before the coup that overthrew former President Hafizullah Amin and took part in fighting against troops loyal to him.

According to diplomatic reports from Pakistan and New Delhi, the estimated 40,000 Soviet troops now in Afghanistan have fanned out across the country and may already be in action against Muslim tribal guerrillas who have long fought successive Marxist regimes in Kabul.

Meanwhile the Afghanistan capital of Kabul was reported quiet today but travellers arriving in New Delhi said Soviet combat troops were still patrolling some areas of the city.

Diplomatic sources in New Delhi said earlier that Soviet soldiers, much in evidence after the Dec. 27 coup, had now virtually disappeared from the city's streets. But the travellers, who arrived today on an Indian Airlines flight from Kabul, said Russians were still guarding all strategic points in the capital and patrolling parts of the city.

One Afghan, who worked in a foreign embassy in Kabul, said most people he knew in Kabul were depressed and frightened at the presence of Soviet troops now estimated to number about 40,000 in Afghanistan.

The Afghan, who asked not to be named for fear of reprisals against his family in Kabul, said everybody had been happy to see the overthrow of President Hafizullah Amin.

"Amin was the cruellest man we have ever seen," the Afghan said. "Thousands of innocent people, including women and youths, were jailed by him. But we do not like to see what has happened now. Our country has been taken over by the Russians."

The Afghan said there were many casualties on both sides but nobody knew the figures. Kabul was much calmer now and there had been no firing for the last few days, he said.

Soviet troops mustered today in the eastern Afghan city of Jalalabad, apparently deploying for what could be a major winter offensive against dissident tribesmen in the rugged mountains bordering Pakistan.

Travellers crossing to Pakistan at the Torkham checkpoint in the

Khyber Pass today said Jalalabad was in the hands of Soviet troops who began streaming in there Wednesday.

The travellers, who declined to be named, gave conflicting accounts of the number of Soviet troops involved. They said it seemed Soviet generals had used units composed of soldiers in Soviet Central Asia, mostly Russian speakers, in the move to Afghanistan.

Military analysts said such would be more aware than the peasants of Muslim sensitivities.

The travellers said that on the main road, Soviet troops were closer to Pakistan than Jalalabad which is about 90 kilometres from Torkham. They said that as prevailed between Torkham and Jalalabad but that clashes, possibly involving Soviet troops, occurred 48 hours ago on the Kabul-Jalalabad road. Telephone links with Kabul were cut.

Syria

commentators in Israel showed the patience for foreign analysts that said Moscow is acting within its sphere of influence or the Soviet troops would find their selves on the wrong side of international guerrilla war against Afghan Muslim fighters who control the terrain.

Instead Israeli analysts concentrated on the traditional political view of Russia pushing south for warm-water ports and willing to risk war for Arab Gulf oil.

"The motive here," Jerusalem Post wrote in an editorial on the Soviet coup in Afghanistan, "could only have been the desire to remove every possible obstacle -- such as the Afghan Muslim insurgency -- to Soviet penetration into the oil-soaked Gulf area."

Israel's head of military intelligence, Maj. Gen. Yeshoua Saguy, claimed in a recent interview that Syria might choose "radical path" to blunt what he called the Syrian people's discontent with domestic troubles.

It would be likely, Gen. Saguy was quoted as saying, "that if masses' anger would be turned outward, and in that case, it obvious objective would be Israel."

Mr. Chaim Herzog, Israel's former ambassador to the United Nations, and an ex-intelligence chief, wrote in the Jerusalem Post today: "It is clear that were it Israeli-Arab conflict resolved, the main centres of bloodshed, fire and instability in the Middle East and in the Arab World would persist."

Saguy and Herzog both warn that radical Arab states such as Iraq and Libya are seeking nuclear weapons. Herzog noted France is interested in supplying nuclear technology to Iraq and Pakistan. Here it seems to be the greatest danger being posed, Israel's Gen. Herzog wrote.

هكذا من الناحية

Damas-Scene

Compiled for the Jordan Times by Pat McDonnell

(Week of January 5-11)

EXHIBITIONS

ATURDAY, Jan. 5: An exhibition of 30 paintings by noted Syrian artists which have been purchased by Al Sha'b Gallery will be on view for 10 days at Al Sha'b Gallery. Hours: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; 4:30 - 8 p.m. daily except Friday.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 9: Photographs of the first books and drawings by the German philosopher Immanuel Kant go on view at the Goethe Institute through Jan. 22. A 7 p.m. reception will open the show. Artifacts giving a general idea of the life and times of the great German philosopher have been collected by the Institute of Cultural Relations of Stuttgart.

LECTURES

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 7: A literary evening is slated for 6 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre where the Bulgarian poet Nicola Ilyenkov will read his works (in Russian).

THURSDAY, Jan. 10: Dr. Samir Daher will give a music lecture at 6 p.m. in the Music Salon of the Soviet Cultural Centre. His topic will be "The Bloody Sunday in the Music of Tschostokovitch" (in Arabic).

VIDEO-TAPED PROGRAMMES

TUESDAY, Jan. 8: A series of weekly Tuesday programmes depicting the early cinema of France will be kicked off at the French Cultural Centre with a 6 p.m. show, entitled "Melies ou le cinema de la surprise. Le cinema forain." (in French).

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 9: In conjunction with its exhibition depicting early songs of France, the French Cultural Centre is presenting musical programmes at 6 p.m. The third in the series features the music and songs of Serge Lama (in French).

FRIDAY, Jan. 11: Johnny Hallyday will be presented in song at 6 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre (in French).

ATURDAY, Jan. 5 and MONDAY, Jan. 7: "La Femme du Boulanger," a 1938 film directed by Marcel Pagnol which has been termed by some critics as the best motion picture of the 20th century, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre. It stars Raimu, Ginette Leclerc and Charpin (in French. Arabic sub-titles).

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 9: "Constantine Zaslouov" entitled a feature film slated for 6 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre (in English. Arabic sub-titles).

THURSDAY, Jan. 10: "Judex," a 1963 film directed by George Ranju starring Francine Berge, Michel Vitold and Sylvia Kossima, will be shown at 8:30 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre (in French. Arabic sub-titles).

FRIDAY, Jan. 11: "The Cook and the Singer" entitled a feature film slated for 6 p.m. at the Soviet Cultural Centre.

SOVIET FILM WEEK

Upon popular demand, the showing of Soviet films has been expanded and extended for one week at Amir Cinema. Showtimes are 3:30, 6:30 and 9:30 p.m. daily. Many of the films have English sound tracks; all have Arabic sub-titles.



"The Water Carrier" entitled (this oil painting by Damascene artist Khalil Akhari which is part of Al Sha'b Gallery's permanent collection on view this week.



Abstract calligraphy by Muhammad Ghannoum is also on view at Al Sha'b Gallery this week.

SATURDAY, Jan. 5: "Dilemma of a Woman"

SUNDAY, Jan. 6: "Hamlet"

MONDAY, Jan. 7: "Bullet 41"

TUESDAY, Jan. 8: "Adventures of the Amazing Primate: the Monkey"

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 9: "Serge Ishmastein"

THURSDAY, Jan. 10: "The Fiery Horses"

FRIDAY, Jan. 11: "The Savage West"

If you have items for the Damas-Scene column, please phone to Pat McDonnell in Damascus at 336-658 or mail them to P.O. Box 5601, Damascus.

Israel will have to take the Jerusalem Electricity Co. by force, Nuseibeh says

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan. 4 (Agencies) -- Mr. Anwar Nuseibeh, chairman and managing director of the Jerusalem District Electricity Company (JDEC), has said that "the Israeli government will have to send in tanks" to implement its planned takeover of the company.

Mr. Nuseibeh told the Jerusalem Post: "We will not negotiate with anyone, and we will not sell the company."

The Israeli authorities informed the company on Monday that they intended to take over the company's concession, under which it supplies electricity to both Arab villages and Jewish settlements in the Jerusalem area, on Jan. 1, 1981.

The company intends to challenge the takeover plans in Israeli and international courts, as it violates the terms of the concession, originally granted under the British mandate in 1928.

Mr. Nuseibeh told the Post that he believed the company's refusal to negotiate would make it impossible for the Israeli government to pay compensation, as it is legally bound to do.

Company officials and West Bank leaders have emphasised that the company is not for sale. After several months of financial crisis last year, JDEC has now been restored to financial health following a grant of budgetary assistance by Jordan.

But the Israelis have consistently refused to allow the company to purchase the new generators it needs to maintain its service, and its output has been severely strained by the requirement that it supply electricity to Jewish neighbourhoods and settlements in the Jerusalem area. The company has some 300,000 Arab and 15,000 Israeli subscribers.

Mr. Nuseibeh also said the Israeli government would find it difficult, without the company's cooperation, to effect the technical transfer of the company's concession to the Israel Electric Company. The JDEC has already been forced to buy up to 60 per cent of its power from the Israeli company because of the rising demands and the obsolescence of its equipment.

Meanwhile, West Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek said he supported the government's decision

to take over the JDEC concession when the plan was first mooted last June. He had this week been reported as condemning the move on the grounds that it would damage Arab-Israeli relations at a time when Israel was trying to

implement its Palestinian "autonomy" scheme on the occupied West Bank. But Mr. Kollek now says he changed from supporting the plan to opposing it only a few weeks ago because the JDEC was now operating more efficiently

than it was in the middle of last year.

Israeli Deputy Prime Minister Yigael Yadin said on Wednesday that the takeover decision would be brought before the Israeli cabinet for reconsideration.

Israel's Defence Committee decides to build settlement

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan. 4 (Agencies) -- The Israeli Ministerial Defence Committee Thursday

decided to establish a new West Bank settlement, the Jerusalem Post reported today.

The new settlement, to be called Lavona, will be located east of Ben Gurion airport, about six kilometres into the West Bank, near the Arab village of Luban, on some 500-600 dunums of state-owned land.

Preliminary debates about its establishment were held several weeks ago, but the final decision was delayed until surveys proved that the state owned enough land there to sustain a settlement.

The decision to establish the settlement, however, is expected to be appealed in a cabinet meeting Sunday by Deputy Prime Minister Yigael Yadin. He has claimed that the Lavona settlement is not essential for security.

Mufti pledges to take juvenile, prison problems

AMMAN, Jan. 4 (JNA) -- The Ministry of Social Development will pursue the work carried out by the former Social Affairs Department over the past year, Minister of Social Development In'am Mufti said today.

She told the Jordan News Agency that her ministry will give special attention to the problems of juvenile delinquents, rehabilitation centres and the development of local and rural communities and the badi'a.

The ministry is also preparing special cultural and recreational programmes for children. The ministry's new regulations will be referred to the cabinet for approval in two days time, the minister said.



The Minister of Social Development, Mrs. In'am Mufti

NCC committees to discuss income tax, aviation laws

AMMAN, Jan. 4 (JT) -- The National Consultative Council's legal, education and financial committees will hold meetings Saturday, Sunday and Monday to consider a number of bills referred to them by the government.

The bills deal, among other things, with amendments to the income tax and civil aviation laws. Al Rai newspaper said.

The committees' findings will be referred to the council later on, according to the paper, quoting the NCC secretary general, Mr. Adnan Ba'youm.

Mr. Ba'youm said the NCC will not meet on Monday because there is nothing on the agenda for discussion.

2 men murdered in Ajloun

AJLOUN, Jan. 4 (JT) -- Two men, aged 40 and 22, were found dead yesterday inside a car close to Al Rabad Citadel near Ajloun.

According to the local press, the bodies, lying in a pool of blood, were discovered by a passer-by who immediately reported the crime to the police station in the city.

The bodies were carried to the

Baptist Hospital in Ajloun, to be later transferred to the University of Jordan hospital for an autopsy.

The names of the victims were not released by police, but the 40-year-old man was said to be the cab driver, and the other a Jordanian student at a university in Pakistan.

The police are conducting an investigation to find the killers.

Advertise by mail In the Jordan Times

The Jordan Times can accept classified advertisements that are sent in by mail and accompanied by full payment in cash. Readers and advertisers who cannot conveniently bring their advertisements to the Jordan Times office or to an advertising agency office in Amman may send in their ads by mail on the following conditions:

1. Full payment in cash accompanies the advertisement.
2. The minimum charge for a single advertisement is JD 3.
3. Advertisements sent by mail cannot contain any artwork such as company emblems, photos or drawings, but must consist only of a headline and copy that will be typeset by the Jordan Times.
4. Advertisements are not accepted over the telephone or telex, and guaranteed insertions on specific dates can only be assured by sending in the advertisements so they reach the Jordan Times office at least two days before the required day of publication.
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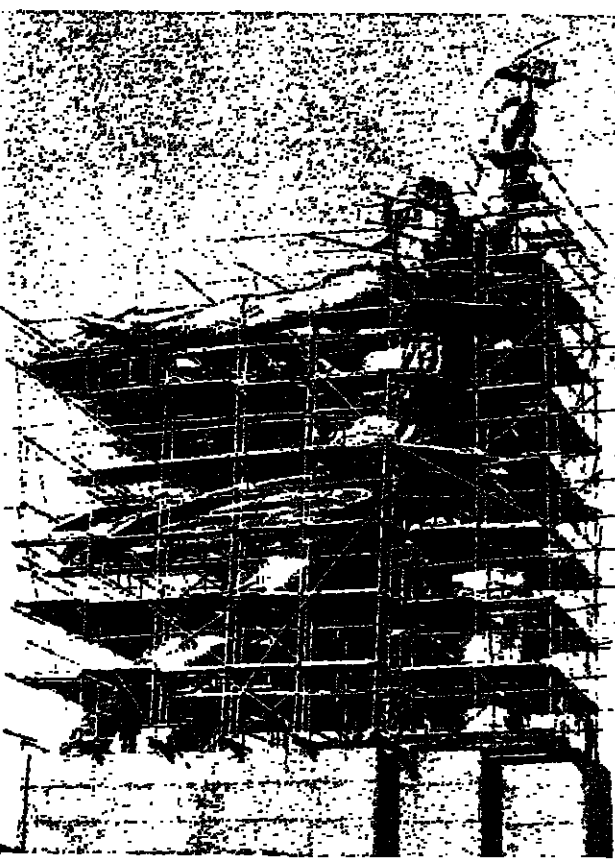
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JORDAN TIMES SPORTS ROUNDUP



Many buildings and monuments in Moscow are being cleaned in preparation for the summer Olympics. Meanwhile, as Western countries consider a possible boycott of the games, International Olympic Committee President Lord Killanin said Wednesday that political motives should not be used to prevent athletes from competing. (Gamma photo)

Australia down England on damp wicket

SYDNEY, Jan. 4 (R) — Australian captain Greg Chappell took no pleasure here today as his side sank England on a wet wicket to take almost total control of the second test after only one rain-shortened day. With England 90 for seven at the close, Chappell could have been excused for gloating about the possibility of Australia wrapping up the three-test series after their 138-run win in the first test. Instead, however, Chappell hit out at the atrocious mud heap conditions on which England had to bat.

"The test was virtually reduced to a toss of the coin, winning the toss was paramount," Chappell said. Luck was with the Australian captain when his English counterpart, Mike Brearley, called wrongly and Chappell did not even have to think before putting England in to bat with only two and a half hours play remaining. The start was delayed for more than four hours by rain.

"I thought the chances of play today were extremely remote when I arrived at the ground," Chappell said. "In fact I didn't really believe the wicket was fit enough to play at any stage." England's batsmen would certainly agree with Chappell's judgement after their torture by the Australian fast bowlers on the spongy, damp wicket.

England's wickets began to fall in only the fourth over when opener Geoff Boycott was bowled by left arm paceman Geoff Dymock, who revelled in the seaming conditions. England did not help their cause by failures again from their out of form batsmen Derek Randall out for nought, and David Gower, who went for three. Their test spots would certainly be in danger if any of England's other batsmen were in form. The only sign of a fight

came during a 37-run partnership between Brearley and his possible successor as captain, Ian Botham, who took the score from 41 for five to 74 for six when Botham was out for 27.

Pfister upset in Australian tennis tourney

HOBART, Tasmania, Jan. 4 (R) — Australian Terry Rocaert, who had never before reached the semifinals of a major tournament, toppled two seeded opponents today to reach the last four in the Australian Hard Court Tennis Championships here. Rocaert comfortably defeated number one seed Hank Pfister of the United States 6-4, 6-1 in the morning, then defeated sixth-seeded South African Ray Moore 6-3, 6-2 in the afternoon quarterfinals.

New York clobbers San Diego

NEW YORK, Jan. 4 (AP) — "We were awful, just awful," said Gene Shue, coach of the San Diego Clippers. Then he broke into a laugh. The Clippers had just been clobbered by the New York Knicks 138-101 last night in a game that as decided in the very first quarter when the Knicks broke in front 16-3 and built the lead of 3 points. So why was Shue laughing? "I can laugh because I know it's just one game," he said. The Clippers shot 5-for-26 — a 19.2 percentage — in the first quarter, when the Knicks ran off streaks of 12, 12 and 10 consecutive points to bust the game wide

open at 42-12. New York led by 34 points in the second quarter and by at least 20 throughout the second half, with the Clippers reaching 40 points in the final minute.

RAC team wins Amman tourney

AMMAN, Jan. 4 (JT) — The Royal Automobile Club team defeated the International Tennis Team of Sports City here today by a score of 28-10 points for the 19 matches played.

Armed Forces team wins race in Amman

AMMAN, Jan. 4 (JNA) — A cross-country race was held in Amman today under the patronage of Minister of Culture and Youth Taher Hikmat.

The Armed Forces team came first and second in the race followed by the Ministry of Education team which was third and fourth while the Mafrq team was fifth. At the end of the race the minister distributed trophies and prizes to the winners.

Champions' Trophy Hockey Tournament

KARACHI, Jan. 4 (R) — Results on the second day of the Champions' Trophy Hockey Tournament here today:

Pakistan 5, Spain 1; India 3, Australia 3; Netherlands 4, Brazil 1.

CURRENT STANDINGS

	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points
Pakistan	3	2	0	0	4
Australia	3	1	1	0	3
Netherlands	1	1	0	0	2
West Germany	1	1	0	0	2
India	2	0	1	1	1
Britain	2	0	0	2	0
Spain	2	0	0	2	0

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FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JAN. 5, 1980

YOUR DAILY
Horoscope
from the Carroll Righter Institute

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Gain the interest of those who can assist you in putting your finest talents across and become more successful in the future.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Working more closely with family members makes this a most worthwhile day. Take health treatments you need.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Show allies that you are adept at following routines and getting much accomplished. Avoid a tendency to overstep.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Show that you can think on a high plain and then whittle ideas down to a workable level and add to present income.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) You get fine ideas for improving your financial status, so start putting them in operation without delay. Don't lose your temper.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get busy and make new plans quietly for the days ahead so that you get good results. Think along more optimistic lines.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Good day to be with intelligent friends and coming to a fine understanding with them. Enjoy the lighter side of life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Study your surroundings and make plans for improvement. Take health treatments and improve your appearance.

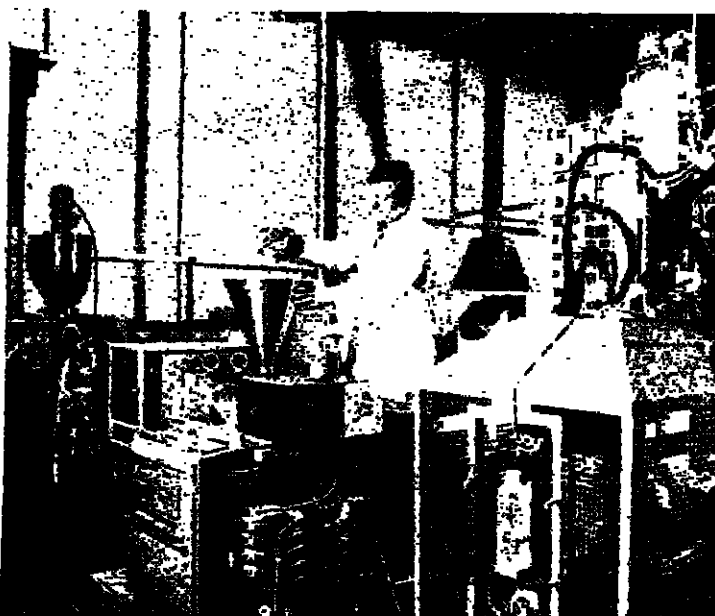
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Good day to seek new outlets that appeal to you. Strive to have increased abundance in the days ahead.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Find a more modern way of handling obligations and get excellent results. Avoid one who twists the truth.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Find right way of showing allies and friends how much they mean to you. Put your talents to work.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Plan how to add to present security. Obey all rules and regulations that apply to you. Live for increased happiness.

Plastic ware in the making



MUNICH — Deutsches Museum, Munich, has an impressive reputation as the foremost museum of science and technology in West Germany. Keeping abreast of new developments is no easy task; the chemical engineering section was outdated only 13 years after it was opened. Chemicals have certainly played a key role in establishing today's living standards. This machine pictured above demonstrates the manufacture of plastic ware to museum visitors. (DaD photo)

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DIPAL

OGGRE

INGUMP

CAFRIB

WHY THEY CALLED HIM A COMEDIAN OF THE FIRST WATER.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: HE WAS A

THE Daily Crossword by Jack L. Steinhart

ACROSS

1 Scheduled

4 Spurious

8 River to the Rhine

13 Well-bred one, for short

14 Native of Gdynia

15 A Horatio

16 Klin

17 Soviet sea

18 Tailor's iron

19 Car sweeper

22 — cante

23 Shoe part

24 Trodden

27 Command

29 Navy man: abbr.

31 Originally named

32 Actor Byrne

34 Peru native

35 Fleming

36 Hardened

40 Deserter

41 Aquatic bird

42 Tablet

43 Break or cast

44 Rep. opposition

45 Wrathful

49 Musical symbol

51 Exchange mediums

55 Range fuel

56 Solemn flower

59 Baseball player

61 Brook

62 Chamber or bellum

63 Lance

64 Silk worm

65 — of March

66 In a despondent manner

67 Store type: abbr.

68 Dureya of films

11 In medias

12 Before

13 Servant to

21 Bag man

25 English meals

26 Plymouth Rock

28 Slithery one

30 Sickness

33 Moolah

34 Bay of Japan

36 Net hat

37 Bore

38 Witness from anchorage

39 One in front: abbr.

40 Mythical bird

47 Make

48 Curved letters

50 Bestial

52 Ham: Fr.

53 Long Island town

54 Great

57 A Calhoun

58 Pillage

59 Fool

60 Bath, e.g.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
1979 by Chicago Tribune

1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

A6 ♠ 9852 ♠ J104 ♠ AK85

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass

What action do you take?

—North's jump shift response to your takeout double is not forcing. It is invitational, showing a hand of about 11 or 12 points, and inviting the doubler to bid game if he is better than minimum. Even at this vulnerability South has a minimum takeout double, so you should pass.

2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

A63 ♠ 3762 ♠ QJ1082 ♠ 7

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?

—You would have been much more optimistic about slam prospects had partner shown a heart fit in response to your Stayman query. Even so, you have a good hand opposite a two no-trump opener and you should not give up on slam. Bid four aces, suit—long suit—if partner can make a cue-bid with his fit for your suit, slam is still likely.

3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

A93 ♠ AK1092 ♠ 82 ♠ A1073

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?

—At this vulnerability, your hand is just worth a game bid—after all, partner did respond freely over the invitational. The late of the hand will rest upon partner's holding clubs, so we would make our bid by bidding three clubs and leaving the rest up to partner.

4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

87 ♠ AKJ92 ♠ AK6 ♠ A83

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass

What action do you take?

—With 19 points in high cards, one strong bid is called for. You bid jump to three hearts to highlight your good five-card suit, but we prefer to have at least a six-card suit and an unbalanced hand for that action. Your choice would be to jump to no-trump, thereby describing a hand of 19-20 points that is

balanced.

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

AKJ52 ♠ AK ♠ Q9873 ♠ 6

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 1 NT Pass

What do you bid now?

A.—You have a very good hand, but it does contain a flaw—some of your high cards are in your short suit, where they don't pull their full weight. Therefore, we would rebid only two diamonds, because we don't feel we can make game unless partner can act freely over that bid. But had we held two low hearts and the ace-king in diamonds, we would have jumped shifted.

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

AK86 ♠ QJ92 ♠ AQJ ♠ J109

Partner opens the bidding with one no-trump. What do you respond?

A.—This is a matter of simple arithmetic. Assume that partner has a maximum opener of 18 points. Add your 14 and you still come up with only 32—not enough for slam. So you should simply bid three no-trumps, since you do not get anything extra for bidding four or five no-trump and you run the risk of going down when partner has only 16 and you get some bad breaks.

Q.7—As South, vulnerable, you hold:

AJ ♠ KJ92 ♠ 5 ♠ AKQJ73

Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one diamond. What action do you take?

A.—Today, jump overcalls are played as preemptive, but even if they were not, we would not jump to three clubs, which risks missing a 4-4 heart fit and a possible game in that suit. We would double and hope that partner responds in hearts. If he bids anything else, we can then jump in clubs to show our power.

Q.8—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

75 ♠ 92 ♠ Q1043 ♠ K10952

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass

3 ♠ Pass 3 NT Pass

4 NT Pass

What action do you take?

A.—Since you could have passed three spades with an absolute trump, your rebid of three no-trump promised some values. However, it did not promise a king and a queen, with a fair five-card suit into the bargain. If partner could move over that, we are prepared to play in a slam. If you rebid five clubs, we will accept that if you intended it as natural and were not responding to Blackwood. But for our money we would risk a direct six no-trump.

Peanuts

REALLY? YES, MAAM, WE UNDERSTAND

SHE SAYS WE CAN'T SEE THIS MOVIE UNLESS WE'RE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT...

ASK HER IF THEY HAVE ANY MOVIES WE CAN SEE IF WE'RE ACCOMPANIED BY A DOG

Andy Capp

DOES 'E ALWAYS THAT BEFORE HE GOES TO THE PUB, FLOP

NOT ALWAYS, SUZIE

SOMETIMES 'E'S GOT MONEY OF 'IS OWN

Mutt 'n' Jeff

CHRISTMAS CIGARS SALE HAND MADE

UGH!

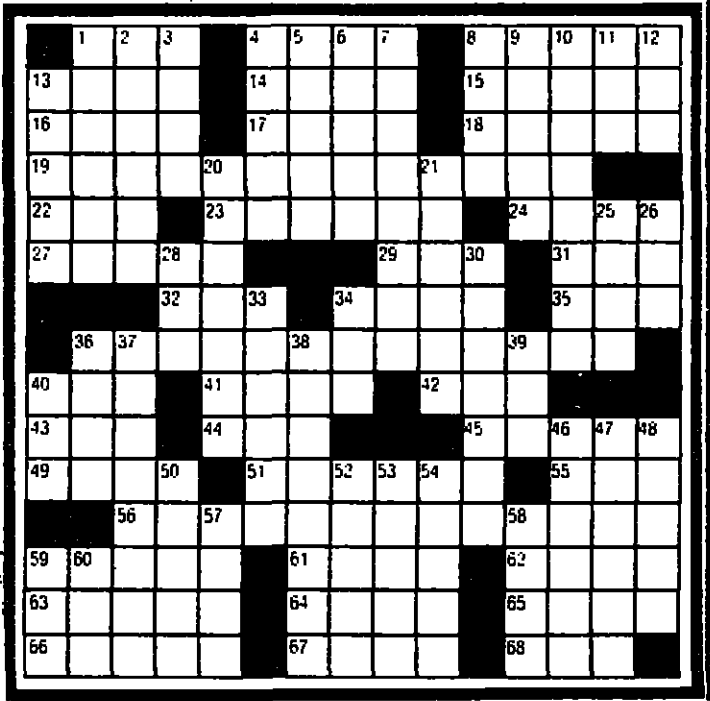
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WHAT ARE YOU KICKING ABOUT? I GOT A WHOLE STORE FULL OF 'EM!

Flintstones

...WELL, ONE CONSOLATION...

...I'VE LOST FIVE POUNDS SINCE ALL THIS STARTED



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THE BETTER HALF By Vinson

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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

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Open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

Pre-election violence continues in Salisbury Grenade fired into home of ZANU leader's aide

SALISBURY, Jan. 4 (R) — A rifle grenade was fired into the home of an aide of guerrilla leader Robert Mugabe early today, slightly injuring his wife, police said.

A police spokesman identified the aide as Mr. James Basson Moyo, an official of Mr. Mugabe's ZANU (Zimbabwe African National Union), who lives in the mainly black suburb of Houghton Park.

Mr. Moyo's wife Stella was asleep when the rifle grenade exploded just after midnight. Five other people in the house were not injured, the spokesman said.

Mr. Mugabe's own Salisbury home came under attack from unidentified gunmen in a speeding car less than two weeks ago.

Two days ago, a man was killed in the black township of Harare and one of Mr. Mugabe's guerrilla commanders was arrested following the shooting.

With general elections due next month, political passions have been running high among the hundreds of thousands of Africans living in Salisbury's black townships, and the violent incidents seemed to herald a tough campaign.

The grenade appeared to have been fired from the high wall around the house and smashed through a bedroom window before exploding about a metre from the bed.

The blast lifted tiles from the roof, blew off doors and smashed windows throughout the three-bedroom bungalow. The wall above Mrs. Basson Moyo's bed was peppered with shrapnel marks.

"She was very lucky not to have been killed," one of her relatives said.

A police spokesman declined to say whether political rivals of Mr. Mugabe were suspected of firing the grenade.

Yesterday in Lusaka, Patriotic Front co-leader Joshua Nkomo put off his return to Rhodesia by one week to Jan. 13 following a request from British authorities in Salisbury.

The British asked the veteran

nationalist to postpone his return from three years of exile because of a mass rally planned for Sunday—his original arrival date—by his arch-rival, former premier Bishop Abel Muzorewa. They feared clashes between the two groups of supporters.

Mr. Nkomo wanted to arrive in Salisbury on a Sunday to make the biggest possible impact on Rhodesian voters, now preparing for pre-independence elections starting on Feb. 27, his officials said.

He announced recently that his Zimbabwe African Peoples Union (ZAPU) would fight the election under the Patriotic Front banner despite the decision of his ally of the past three years, Mr. Mugabe's ZANU, to wage a separate campaign.

Mr. Nkomo indicated he still hoped to form a coalition government with ZANU, even if the two movements continued to mount separate campaigns.

ZAPU officials discounted fears that Mr. Nkomo could lose valuable electioneering time by putting off his return to the Rhodesian political stage by a whole week.

The party's political machinery was already in action and enough ZAPU leaders had already returned from Zambia, their base during the guerrilla war against the Salisbury administration, to conduct a full-scale campaign while awaiting their president's arrival, they said.

Meanwhile, United Nations officials are discussing plans to repatriate more than 200,000 Rhodesian refugees in meetings in Lusaka with representatives of "frontline" African states and the two sides to the Rhodesian civil war.

A two-man delegation from the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) arrived here yesterday for talks with Zambian Government officials and leaders

of ZAPU, a UNHCR spokesman said.

The team's leader, Mr. Abdou Ciss, then flew to London where the British Government is hosting a one-day meeting today to work out the number of refugees, how they will return to Rhodesia and what reception facilities will be available there.

The UNHCR office here was not released figures of the number of Rhodesians who left their country during the seven-year guerrilla war.

Informed sources said there are around 50,000 refugees in Zambia, some 150,000 in Mozambique and about 25,000 in Botswana.

Author of 'Born Free' killed by lion

NAIROBI, Jan. 4 (R)—Naturalist Joy Adamson, famous for her books on Elsa the lioness, was killed by a lion today at a remote Kenyan game reserve, wildlife officials said.

A game warden radioed the news to Nairobi from Samburu, near Mrs. Adamson's camp 370 kilometres north of here.

The warden told officials that Mrs. Adamson, 69, had been walking near her camp this morning when she saw a lion chasing a buffalo.

She walked towards the animals and the lion turned on her and killed her, the warden said.

Mrs. Adamson made her name with her first book, "Born Free", which was published some 20 years ago and later made into a film.

Mr. Ellis Monks, executive director of the World Wildlife Fund, said: "We are very shocked at her death. She will undoubtedly be greatly missed as one of the greatest contributors to wildlife awareness and conservation."

"Through her books and films she has made the cause of wildlife known to many millions of people."

Mrs. Adamson's other books about Elsa were "Living Free" and "Forever Free."

Mr. Monks, who is also a director of the Elsa Limited Wildlife Trust, said Mrs. Adamson's body had been taken to the town of Meru near the Shaba game park where she was killed.

He said police were still investigating her death.

Major victory reported for Eritrean guerrillas

DAR ES SALAAM, Jan. 4 (R) — Eritrean guerrillas in northern Ethiopia have won a major battle against Soviet-led government troops and have gone on the offensive, according to a correspondent who returned from the area yesterday.

Mr. Masataka Itoh, of the Japanese Asahi Shimbun newspaper, said he saw hundreds of Ethiopian bodies after the battle. Guerrillas of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) defeated the government's crack Third Division, which crushed the Somali army in the 1978 Ogaden war, he said.

Mr. Itoh, who spent a month with the guerrillas, said the battle began on Dec. 2 when some 20,000 Ethiopian troops with T-54 tanks and rockets attacked the mountain town of Nakfa.

Nakfa was the last stronghold of the EPLF, whose area has shrunk dramatically in the last year in the face of an offensive by numerically far superior government forces and aircraft. The attack was beaten off after 13 days of bitter fighting in which, according to the guerrillas, 8,000 government troops were killed or wounded.

After a lull, the guerrillas broke out of Nakfa on Dec. 27 and in a two-day battle completely routed the Ethiopian Third Division and the tank group supporting it.

Mr. Itoh quoted EPLF Secretary-General Ramadan Mohamed Nur as saying he believed the tide in the 18-year-old secessionist war had turned in the guerrillas' favour because they had smashed the government's best army division.

He said the EPLF had Afabet surrounded with about 10,000 troops trapped inside. Further to the north, Russian ships were evacuating government forces from the Red Sea port of Mersa Teklay which was also under guerrilla siege.

The correspondent said he saw 300 freshly-captured government troops who told him morale in the Ethiopian forces was low and that there had been a large number of executions in Asmara for desertion and self-inflicted injury. They said Russian officers manned some of the tanks and commanded artillery batteries.

U.S. defence secretary to begin talks in China

PEKING, Jan. 4 (R)—U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown arrives in Peking tomorrow for a week of talks with China's leaders expected to include the situation in Afghanistan and U.S. arms sales to Taiwan.

Mr. Brown, the first defence secretary to visit the People's Republic, will probably discuss ways in which China and the U.S. could strengthen Pakistan's armed forces in the light of the Soviet intervention in neighbouring Afghanistan, officials in Washington have said.

China, which shares a short border with Afghanistan, has sharply criticised the Soviet Union over the presence of its troops in the country.

U.S. officials have ruled out the possibility of American arms sales to China, and military aid to countries developing a nuclear capacity, such as Pakistan, is usually prohibited under U.S. law.

But officials in Washington said there would be nothing to stop China paying cash for U.S. arms and then supplying them to Pakistan.

The Afghan situation has added a sense of urgency to Mr. Brown's visit, which was arranged months ago to strengthen the new



Harold Brown

ties between the U.S. and China.

The other major issue certain to be discussed is yesterday's announcement by the Carter administration that it would sell \$280 million worth of anti-aircraft missiles and other defensive equipment to Taiwan.

Some sophisticated equipment requested by Taiwan, including aircraft to replace its ageing F-5 fighters, was not included in the list.

The decision, which can be blocked by the U.S. Congress, is the first on U.S. arms sale to Taiwan since the two countries' mutual defence treaty expired on Dec. 31, and is expected to be criticised by Peking's leaders.

Mr. Brown is scheduled to spend five days in Peking before travelling to the southern industrial and military centres of Wuhan and Shanghai.

He is expected to visit China's Sixth Armoured Division, see a flight demonstration of the Chinese-made F-6 fighter and tour a submarine shipyard in Wuhan.

In Premier Singh's constituency India orders inquiry into allegations of poll-rigging

NEW DELHI, Jan. 4 (R) — India's election commission ordered an inquiry today into allegations of poll-rigging in Premier Charan Singh's constituency.

Election Commissioner S.L. Shakhder said he had ordered the inquiry following press reports that members of the Harijan (Untouchable) caste in Mr. Singh's Baghat constituency were prevented from voting in general elections yesterday.

The constituency was one of 244 to go to the polls in the two-part election to the 544-seat lower house (Lok Sabha) of parliament. Others will vote on Sunday.

Mr. Shakhder told reporters here that counting of votes in Baghat constituency, due to start on Sunday morning, would be suspended and a fresh poll ordered if the allegations were found to be true.

Mr. Singh, first elected from Baghat in the 1977 general election, was seeking re-election in the mid-term poll against nine other candidates. His main rival was Mr. Ram Chandra Vikal of the Congress (I) Party of former premier Indira Gandhi.

The constituency has an electorate of 670,000, and Mrs. Gandhi's party was expected to receive most of the votes polled by Harijans. Harijan voters in the constituency number about 125,000.

Scattered violence, cold weather and general disenchantment with politicians helped to produce a low poll yesterday in the first stage of India's election.

The average turnout for the country was 50 per cent in 244 of the 525 parliamentary constituencies. The rest will vote on Sunday with first results due on Sunday evening. The turnout was 60 per cent in the 1977 elections.

Voting was a low 45 per cent in the northern Rae Bareilly constituency fought by Mrs. Gandhi, 62, whose party was given the best chance of winning the election.

Political commentators said the low turnout might count against her, but she was still expected to muster more votes than her main contenders, the Janata Party led by Jagjivan Ram and Mr. Singh's Lok Dal (People's Party).

Mr. Singh has pledged not to re-impose emergency rule if her party wins the mid-term election. She has also stated that her controversial son, Sanjay, held responsible for a bitterly criticised campaign of forced sterilisations, will not be included in the government if the Congress Party is elected.

A widespread severe cold spell kept many voters at home in northern India, while a lot of people in other parts of the country seemed unable to find enough enthusiasm to vote.

In Amroha constituency in northern Uttar Pradesh province, voting was stopped and a fresh poll ordered after three Harijans (Untouchables) were killed and

19 injured by supporters of an upper caste Hindu.

Special polling booths have been set up in many areas for Harijans, who are often deterred from voting by upper caste groups.

In the desert state of Rajasthan, a booth was quickly converted into a temporary maternity centre when a woman voter gave birth to an election day baby boy.

At two other polling stations in the state, not a single voter turned up. At Lasravan, voters boycotted the election in protest at the government's failure to provide a better school and at Lalkhakhidani, people spurned the poll because a drinking water problem had not been solved.

The state with the lowest turnout of voters was northeastern Assam with 30 per cent. The election has been postponed in 12 of the state's 14 constituencies following agitation by local people about the inclusion of immigrants on electoral rolls.

More than 30 people have died in Assam and neighbouring



Charan Singh

Meghalaya state in recent weeks in the violence.

Students in Assam called today for demonstrations to stop trains running in the state on Sunday, when voting will take place in one of the constituencies.

A student spokesman said the central government was holding "the election" against the wishes of the people.

More than 4,600 candidates twice as many as in 1977, are standing in the election, in which two million people have been mobilised to supervise about 438,000 polling places.

U.S. hopes to complete at least part of military agreement with Turkey

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4 (AP)—State Department, counselor Matthew Nimetz was heading for Turkey today, hoping to conclude negotiations on at least portions of the long-delayed U.S. military cooperation agreement with Turkey.

American officials said President Jimmy Carter's administration hopes to have the agreement at least partially completed before the interim operating authority granted by Turkey expires on Jan. 9.

A second time factor, they said is the Jan. 25 deadline for submitting 1981 budget proposals to Congress.

The budget will contain a substantial increase in the \$350 million package of economic and military aid Turkey is getting from the United States this year, the officials said. They refused to give a specific figure.

The officials, who asked not to be identified, said there were no major problems remaining in the negotiations over the agreements, just pages of detailed wording to agree on.

The agreement covers American bases in Turkey. They were closed in 1974 when Congress passed an arms embargo against Turkey because of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus. They have been open, on a series of interim extensions, since the arms embargo was lifted in 1978.

Officials said they were confident increased American concern for the stability of the Middle East would make it easier to win congressional approval of the defence agreements and the increased aid.

The talks, continuing on and off for the past year, are over a foundation agreement, which would determine a permanent status for the American installations in Turkey, and three annex agreements which concern defence assistance to Turkey and aid for the development of a native Turkish defence industry.

The major stumbling block for the negotiators in the past was a list attached to the Turkish draft giving requirements of military equipment from the United States for the next five years.

The monetary value of the equipment has been variously estimated from \$2.5 billion to \$4 billion, an amount the U.S. administration was not certain it could deliver.

Under an apparent compromise solution, the sides have now agreed to form a standing committee, comprising Turkish and American military experts, which would review on a yearly basis Turkish armed forces' requirements and seek ways as to how the United States could best help meet those needs, source reported.

World News Briefs

SEOUL, Jan. 4 (R)—South Korea's foreign minister said today his country would welcome a summit meeting between President Choi Kyu-hah and President Carter. The minister, Mr. Park Tong-jin, said it might be necessary for Mr. Choi to go to Washington to strengthen security and other cooperation between the two allies following the assassination of President Park Chung-hee last October. "We would welcome a summit meeting between Korea and the United States as useful in many aspects," Foreign Minister Park said. But he told reporters there were no specific plans at present for Mr. Choi to visit the United States. President Carter, after visiting South Korea last July, announced he was freezing a plan to phase out 32,000 American ground troops based there because of North Korean military strength.

BELGRADE, Jan. 4 (R)—President Tito has been admitted to a clinic in Ljubljana, north-western Yugoslavia, for a medical check on blood vessels in his legs, officials said last night. They gave no other details, but said the president had been advised to enter the clinic by a medical council. The 87-year-old Yugoslav leader appeared in good health when shown on television celebrating New Year's Eve with his family and close friends.

PANAMA CITY, Jan. 4 (R)—Hundreds of Panamanian students clashed with riot police yesterday in a renewed demonstration against the presence of the former Shah of Iran in Panama. Hospitals reported that at least 29 people were injured. Police armed with pellet guns and batons charged the demonstrators, some of whom hurled rocks, and quickly dispersed them. The demonstration came after about ten days of relative calm. It followed the departure for Iran Wednesday of a delegation of the Students Federation of Panama, at the invitation of militant Muslim students occupying the U.S. embassy in Tehran. Panamanian President Aristides Royo has said his government will consider an Iranian request for the extradition of the deposed Shah if the American hostages were released. The Shah arrived in Panama on Dec. 15 after cancer treatment in the United States. He is staying in a fortress-like villa on the Pacific resort island of Contadora.

OKLAND, California, Jan. 4 (R)—Former Black Panther leader Eldridge Cleaver was sentenced yesterday to up to five years' probation and 2,000 hours' community work for his involvement in a 1968 gun battle with Oakland police. Superior Court Judge Winton McKibben told 44-year-old Cleaver that his probation would end when his community service was completed. "People should have a chance to rehabilitate themselves," Mr. McKibben said. "I feel you have changed for the better." The gun battle, in which hundreds of shots were exchanged by Black Panthers and police, occurred in Oakland on April 6, 1968. A 17-year-old Black Panther was killed and four injured in the shooting. Mr. Cleaver was arrested but later jumped bail, fled to Cuba seeking political exile, went to Algeria and arrived illegally in France in 1972. President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, who was then finance minister, helped Mr. Cleaver obtain a residence permit for humanitarian reasons. He returned to the United States in 1975 claiming to have undergone a religious conversion.

GENEVA, Jan. 4 (R)—A general economic recession and rising fuel costs are likely to make 1980 a profitless year for world airlines despite the continued growth of passenger traffic, the director general of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) said yesterday. Mr. Knut Hammarskjöld said international airlines were unlikely to break even this year, let alone make a sufficient return on investment to help finance the purchase of new, quiet, fuel-saving aircraft. But he said average fares were likely to continue to fall, particularly on heavily-travelled routes, because of airline competitiveness and large-capacity aircraft. Surveying the state of the industry in 1979, Mr. Hammarskjöld said passenger traffic on IATA-member airlines had grown by 13 per cent in the first nine months of the year but fuel costs—amounting to almost one-quarter of total operating expenses—left only a tiny surplus.

Fever is spreading worldwide The stampede for gold

LONDON, Jan. 4 (R) — In a mood of anxiety, more and more people round the world are buying gold and hoarding it in bank safes, under mattresses and in garden pits.

But it is not these small investors who are really responsible for the amazing rises in the price of gold which have shaken world markets recently. Some very big operators have been at work.

At one important centre, Zurich, Swiss bullion dealers say it is the "big fish" of the financial world who are moving from paper money into gold.

It is hard to know exactly who these "big fish" are, since they go to some trouble to disguise their moves, using banks or other agents to act on their behalf.

Dealers in Zurich and elsewhere in Europe point out, however, that the oil producing countries have been wanting to diversify somewhat from the dollar to soften the effect of inflation on their oil revenues.

And there have always been a large number of big operators in the Far East. Europe and in recent years also in North America.

They view with alarm and gloom the world's economic problems and international tensions—inflation, currency turmoil, political problems of the Middle East, Iran and Afghanistan.

They worry about their assets and decide to put some of them, at least, into gold.

The result has been a steady climb of gold values from \$35 an ounce to more than \$500 an ounce during the 1970s, and above \$630 an ounce at the opening of the new decade.

In recent days, several gold markets have had to halt business for a few hours at a time to allow people to clam down and to give staff the chance to catch up on book-keeping.

The present gold fever has begun to take on its own momentum. As one London expert said: "The price is going up because it's going up."

This has attracted the increasing interest of ordinary people, the small investors.

Outside Hong Kong banks for the past two weeks, thousands of

Chinese have been lining up for application forms to buy the annual issue of gold coins.

The lucky ones will have their names drawn at random next month for coins which this year bear an engraving to mark the Year of the Monkey, but the long queues reflect the Chinese obsession with gold as an alternative currency as well as a talisman.

Trinkets as well as coins are attracting buyers. A woman was seen in Hong Kong choosing a ring priced at \$70, but she was told before completing her purchase that the price had risen to \$80.

The obsession with gold jewellery seems to be spreading. A representative of Bloomingdale's department store in New York reports: "We have customers calling constantly checking on the prices of our gold jewellery to find out if they have gone up."

The Europeans have been frantically buying gold coins, although this has been dampened in West Germany because the government has introduced a new year measure taxing them.

In Paris, trading in Napoleon gold coins had to be suspended, recently for a while because of the dearth of sellers. Everyone wanted to buy despite the high prices because of the feeling that the price would go even higher.

A bank near Marble Arch in London was swamped at the end of the week with thousands of people wanting to buy gold sovereigns.

In London's Hatton Garden jewellery area, dealers said many people selling gold jewellery found the price they were getting was rising even in the time it took to weigh and examine the metal for gold.

All of this news, of course, brings delight in South Africa, which produces about 60 per cent of the Western world's gold. The Johannesburg Stock Exchange is reported to be buoyant.

The extra revenue pouring into South Africa will pay for all its oil purchases on the expensive spot market and, economic sources say, possibly all other imports.

Tax cuts may be introduced into the South African budget this spring as a result of the revenue.

Fear over W. German IDs

By Anne Tomforde

BONN — In West Germany, the fiction of 1984 becomes fact in 1981 when citizens will be issued with identity cards that can be read by any computer.

The country's 48 million adults will be the first in the world to carry the cheque card shaped identification paper, praised by its inventors for being forge-proof.

The idea to replace the old-fashioned grey paper ID cards originated in the state's desire to counter left-wing extremism in the early 1970s and crime in general.

Under West German law, every citizen must always carry an identification card. But while a passport is needed for travels outside Europe, presentation of the grey ID card is sufficient to visit European neighbours.

Government-appointed experts chosen to supervise the possible abuse of data information have recently warned against the new system.

The head of the office for the protection of data, Professor Hans-Peter Bull, said in a letter to the government that the state's control of the citizen threatens to become too strong.

Commenting on the plan, leading German newspapers have spoken of a "key step towards a police state."

Entries on the plastic card, the experts fear, can be used by police and intelligence authorities to set up an almost complete network of data on citizens, and come close to turning each member of the population into a cipher.

In theory, every time a person crosses a border inside Europe, boards an aeroplane or is stopped by police in the street, the card can be fed into a central police com-

In 1981, all West German citizens will be issued with identity cards that can be read by any computer. The plan's critics fear that, among other things, it could be used by private industry to "spy" on employees by setting up private data banks.

puter which will then give out details on the bearer.

Apart from possible criminal offences, such details might concern a person's past political inclinations, his participation in protest marches, or his financial situation.

Critics also fear that private industry might soon discover the usefulness of the card and apply it to "spy" on employees by setting up private data banks.

Liberal Interior Minister Gerhart Baum said recently that details of three million citizens are stored in the central computer of the Federal Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BKA) in Wiesbaden. In addition, an unknown number of citizens are registered by the country's intelligence services or the police computers of the sovereign federal states.

The government has not denied a recent estimate by the news magazine Der Spiegel that details of every fifth German citizen are stored in computers.

A law amendment allowing introduction of the plastic pass had a successful first reading in parliament at the end of September. Responding to widespread criticism of the proposed system by data experts, lawyers and civil rights organisations, Herr Baum said that the government would see to it that the system will

not be abused.

The minister said in a contribution to Der Spiegel that the government would work out additional legal guarantees to make sure that the card system will not lead to the establishment of a central data bank.

The document's serial number would not contain personal information on the holder, such as, for instance, his birth date. The government would also ensure that the ID card cannot be used by private firms and organisations to set up data banks.

But such pledges have been dismissed by critics as an "appeasement campaign." They could not allow fears that the document allowed an "excessive degree of political control" inside West Germany and at its borders, according to the German Union for Data Protection.

Data experts critical of the scheme say that by linking up the new card with the hundreds of computers containing information on criminals, spies or extremist suspects, complete control over the movements of citizens will be achieved.

And a delegate at a congress of the ruling Social Democratic Party (SPD) in the state of Hesse recently put the provocative question: "Would any left-winger, Jew, mentally ill person or fore-

igner have survived Hitler's concentration camps if the Nazis had such a perfectionist computer system?"

The data experts fear that systematic cooperation and data exchange between police and intelligence services might increase with the use of the new card. Such cooperation is illegal under the post-war constitution which deliberately separated the tasks of police and the intelligence services in order to prevent repetition of the horrors of the Nazi-era secret police, the Gestapo.

But despite this legal barrier, cooperation between the intelligence services and police has led to a number of scandals in recent years.

These include the illegal eavesdropping on nuclear physicist Klaus Traube, because of his previous acquaintance with a man who later turned to terrorism, and the fall of Liberal Interior Minister Werner Maihofer over instructions by the intelligence services border police to register travellers carrying "suspicious" left-wing literature.

West German computers hold information on young people, who have gone in for sharing files and on at least 1.5 million applicants to civil service jobs who, political loyalty has been checked since 1972.

Mr. Horst Herold, the head of the technically advanced police set in the world after the American FBI—said when asked about use of the new computer card: "If create such new passes it would only be logical to use them widely as possible."

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